

DEANS COUNCIL
April 12, 2022
Minutes

The Deans Council met from 8:30-10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 12 via Zoom. Those present were Austin Agho (Chair), Tammi Dice, Gail Dodge, Stuart Frazer, Kate Hawkins, Jonathan Leib, David Metzger, Brian Payne, Jeff Tanner, and Bonnie Van Lunen. Megan Corbett attended as a guest. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The March 8, 2022, minutes were approved.
2. SACSCOC Update

Brian Payne informed the group that the SACSCOC team is working on compliance certification. The University has contracted with Silver & Associates to review our documents and provide comments and feedback. Faculty-related standards is one of the areas noted as needing more information.

Megan Corbett added that the reviewer has asked for a larger representative sample on annual evaluations across the colleges. Specifically, we need to provide two evaluations per rank per year for the past two years for full-time faculty, evaluations for adjunct faculty, and peer reviews of portfolios. The information provided in the SACSCOC documents will be heavily redacted. Ms. Corbett will reach out to the Deans for assistance in gathering the additional information as needed.

3. Fall 2022 Welcome Back Programming

The group working on Welcome Back programming for fall 2022 would like to provide t-shirts again to the new students. Brian Payne asked for the Deans' support in paying for the t-shirts. The Deans agreed to support the initiative again for fall 2022. Joe Ritchie will be invited to a future meeting to provide information on the programming that is planned for Welcome Back activities in fall 2022.

4. FAS and Integration with Monarch Workflow Manager

Kate Hawkins reported that there are features we are not using in the workflows for personnel actions. The primary feature we are not using is the adoption of the Faculty Activity System (FAS) to archive faculty accomplishments. The workflow can be set up to import data from FAS. After discussion, the Deans agreed to work toward importing FAS data to the workflow for annual reviews. The Strome College of Business will be used as the pilot test with the new workflows for annual reviews for reappointment and for tenured faculty for the 2022-2023 academic year.

5. Faculty Senate Issue AY17-08-G Faculty Teaching Load

Council members discussed the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for revisions to the policy on Faculty Teaching Load. They approved the proposed revisions with the exception of the statement added as item 8 about faculty members who do not participate in professional out-of-classroom university-related activities requesting a teaching load beyond the 24 load hours per academic year. They felt the added statement did not take into account expectations for research and service and that additional discussion would be needed. Council members also approved the inclusion of several editorial revisions originally proposed by the Deans Council.

The Council's recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval.

6. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-20-F Written Explanation for "No" Votes for Reappointment in the Reappointment/Annual Review Policy for Tenure-Track Faculty

Council members discussed and approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for revisions to the policy on Reappointment/Annual Review or Nonreappointment of Faculty. The revisions add language to the policy specifying that faculty members be provided with reasons for the recommendation for appointment or non-reappointment in their annual review letters. The Council's recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill. If he concurs, the proposed revisions will be presented to the Board of Visitors.

7. CANVAS

Kate Hawkins reminded the Deans that Blackboard will be replaced by CANVAS effective June 1. She asked the Deans to encourage their chairs and faculty to review the migrated version of their courses before the end of May if they have not done so. She added that CLT will provide training in department meetings if needed.

8. Faculty and Administrator Growth

Austin Agho informed Council members that the Faculty Senate has expressed concern that the University is hiring more administrators than faculty. However, the Senate only looked at the data for one year and did not take into account auxiliary administrative positions. Trend data shows that the increase is in faculty positions. Dr. Agho will provide this information to the Senate and will share the information with the Deans.

9. Announcements

A. The retreat to discuss the Provost's response to the Program Prioritization Initiative report will be held May 2. It will be shared with faculty following the retreat.